909 W. Houston

FLOYDADA, TEXAS 79235

June 13, 2001

Whitney Rick, Chief Research and Promotion Staff, Cotton Program Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA Stop 0224,1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 2-250-0224



Dear Ms. Rick:

This letter is provided in response to the request for comments for consideration in the review of the 1990 Amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Act.

As a longtime producer of cotton in Floyd County, Texas, I would like to express my strong support for the continuation of the amendments as approved by the importers and producers of cotton. The purpose and objective of the program is to strengthen cotton's competitive position and to maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets and uses for cotton.

The research and promotion that has been conducted has benefited all importers and producers whether they be large or small. It is my opinion that the overall general consensus from growers in my region is that they are very pleased with the effectiveness of the program. I also feel that because these remarks of support for the program have come to me unsolicited that there is no need to conduct a continuation referendum.

Sincerely,

**Eddie Smith**